

LIVE OAK DAILY DEMOCRAT

LIVE OAK, FLORIDA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1906.

Ten Cents a Week.

ASSOCIATION IS IN SESSION

ROCKEFELLER GIVES \$40,000.

Standard Oil King Shows "Enlarge-ment" of the Heart.

New York, Oct. 20.—On June 10th last John D. Rockefeller promised \$40,000 to the Judson Memorial Church in Washington Square on condition that the congregation raised \$55,000 more, the combined sums being for the extinguishing of the church debt. The offer was valid until today, when Rev. Dr. E. Judson, the pastor, announced that the \$55,000 had been collected mostly among the rich Baptists in New York, the congregation of the church having few wealthy people in its number.

First School for New Spelling.

New York, Oct. 19.—A simplified spelling school, the first of its kind was opened here this afternoon in the assembly hall of the West Side Y. M. C. A., West Fifty-seventh street. The course will be free and open to all men who wish to learn the system of spelling employed by the President and authorized by the United States Civil Service Commission. The school is in charge of Warren C. Reed, of the English faculty of the High School of Commerce.

THE EVERGLADE DRAINAGE

Hon. W. R. Dorman, One of the Representatives of this County Opposes Constitutional Amendment

Live Oak, Fla., Oct. 18.—Editor Democrat: During the last primary election campaign in this county, in which I was honored the third time as one of your nominees to the House of Representatives, I expressed myself as being opposed to the drainage scheme as I saw the situation at that time, and I now ask space in your paper to say to my friends and the public generally that I am still opposed to the measure as set forth in the proposed amendment to the constitution of the State.

A large acreage of the land proposed to be drained is now in litigation. Several years ago the Legislature granted the land to certain railroad companies for building railroads through various sections of the State, and the trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund have not conveyed the said land in accordance with Legislative action. Hence, it is now a question for the courts to deter-

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TWENTY-EIGHT ARE DEAD

COTTON GROWERS MEET.

Hon. F. G. Schell, State Secretary, Delivers Excellent Address.

The Suwannee County Cotton Growers' Association is in session at the courthouse today and this morning transacted considerable business of a general nature. Among other things a resolution was passed to the effect that the cotton warehouse be built at once so that part of this season's crop may be handled through the warehouse.

At two o'clock, Hon. F. G. Schell, of Lake Butler, Secretary of the State Cotton Growers' Association, addressed the growers of Suwannee county, and his address was full of good advice to the growers, and those who heard him were much pleased with the address.

Mrs. A. Lee Humphreys and little daughter have returned from their summer outing in South Carolina, greatly improved by the trip. Their many friends are delighted to have them at home again, but the best satisfied individual over their return is Col. A. Lee; he says that house just hasn't been habitable since they have been away.

MORE PARTICULARS OF THE EAST COAST HURRICANE

MIAMI IS HEAVY SUFFERER

Awful Fate of Steamer St. Lucie Loaded With Men for Railroad Extension

Miami, Fla., Oct. 19.—The most terrible feature of the destructive hurricane here was the loss of the steamer S. Lucie, Capt. Bravo, of the Florida East Coast Extension fleet, which sailed from here for Key Largo with a large number of workmen for the extension on board.

The St. Lucie was caught in the central violence of the storm and was driven ashore, a large number of the men on board losing their lives and nearly all the others being severely wounded by the awful pounding of wind and sea.

Twenty-eight Dead.

This evening one of the extension steamers arrived in port bringing sixty wounded, who were taken to the hospital.

It is said there are twenty-eight dead bodies which will be brought up tomorrow.

Drive Through the City.

Yesterday evening the correspondent of the Times-Union, took a drive over a great portion of the city. In every direction the work of devastation was seen. Houses were blown from their foundations and here and there a building completely demolished. Among the severest wrecks, was a new residence being built by T. N. Gautier, Sr., which is a complete wreck. The home of Mrs. Brossier, was blown from its foundation and is considered a complete wreck.

In Colored Town the damage in many cases is not great, as a larger portion of the houses are small and the force of wind simply removed them from their foundations; but there are scores of these cheap houses that will have to be repaired before they are habitable.

On the South Side.

On the south side of the Miami river the principal damage is the uprooting of a large number of giant live oaks and other native shade trees. In the yard of Bobo Dean, editor of the Miami Metropolis, six of these large oaks had been left in the clearing of the lot. Every one was leveled with the ground. These trees that have been destroyed have withstood the storms of centuries.

In Riverside a large new home that had just been completed was blown from its underpinning; but it is thought that the building is not damaged to any extent. Otherwise this suburb escaped without injury.

Navy." This was sent by schooner to Mobile, New Orleans and New York, and brought satisfactory prices.

In 1858 Major Gamble disposed of his Manatee county property to a company of Louisiana sugar planters for \$190,000. The civil war followed closely after, and the slaves were freed, and in the unsettled condition of the country, the business was abandoned, the Major returned to Middle Florida where he spent the remaining years of his long life—a comfort to his friend and an ornament to society.

Major Gamble married the daughter of Judge Thomas Randall and Laura Wirt, his wife. She was the mother of three children, Laura Voorhees, Katherine Elizabeth and Robert Gamble, who died at birth. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church of Tallahassee for fifty years and a Mason for nearly as long a time. He died October 10, 1906, in his ninety-third year, being strong and active up to the time of his last illness.

A LETTER FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

May Roberts Gamble—A Florida Pioneer—Work of Railroad Commission and Other Items of Interest

(Miss Jefferson Bell.)

Tallahassee, Oct. 18.—There were two hearings before the Railroad Commission Wednesday, one of the matter of the complaint of J. V. Brown, of Houston, against the Seaboard Air Line for refusal to furnish cars and the other relative to the petition of the people of Vereen to require the Seaboard to build a depot at Vereen on its St. Marks branch. Thursday Hon. S. J. Hilburn, Hon. Howell Davis and Mr. Geo. B. Selden appeared before the Commission representing the people of Palatka who are making a strenuous effort to get a new passenger depot. The Atlantic Coast Line was represented by Mr. H. A. Ford at the hearing. The Commission also, on that date, heard the petitions of Brooksville for improved depot facilities; Leesburg for new passenger depot; Bostwick and Minneola depots, Taylorville and Lowell for agents, and Rochelle where the citizens want the depot moved to a more convenient location. In all these matters decisions were reserved.

In the Supreme Court one opinion was rendered, it being in the matter of Reed vs. the Southern Development Company, appealed from the Circuit Court of Duval County. The opinion was prepared by Mr. Justice Parkhill and affirmed the decision of the lower court.

Hon. J. C. Cooper and Judge W. B. Owen for appellants, and Hon. A. G. King and Col. A. W. Cockrell for appellees, presented oral arguments in the Supreme Court Thursday in the case of the Wyly-Gabbett Company against H. A. Williams et al, a case appealed from the circuit court of Levy county.

Attorney-General W. H. Ellis, Mrs. Ellis, Dr. and Mrs. Phillips, of Quincy and Dr. DeHart, of Tampa, left Tallahassee Saturday for New Orleans to attend the Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias. Mr. Ellis and Dr. DeHart went as Supreme Representatives from Florida. They will be absent until next week.

Major Robert Gamble—A Florida Pioneer.

Tallahasseeans have long accustomed themselves to regard this as one of the oldest settled sections of the State, and so it is, yet there occurred in this city last week an event which brought to men's minds realization of the fact that the history of Tal-

lahassee itself was briefer than the duration of one man's life.

Nearly ninety-three years ago Robert Gamble was born in Richmond, Va. Nearly seventy-nine years ago Robert Gamble, a lad of fourteen, first came to Tallahassee. The present city of Tallahassee did not then exist. It is believed that not a house now standing in this city had then been erected. Since Major Gamble came here as a boy to make his residence, men and women have been born, have grown up and fought life's battles, have grown old and have died. During this period, practically the whole of Florida's history has been made and recorded. Social institutions have developed and changed and passed away. Yet Major Gamble never seemed an age-worn man. His whole life, compared with the average allotment of man, seems wonderful indeed, both in point of duration and of incident.

Major Gamble was a remarkable character. He was at once one of the most polished gentlemen, original thinkers and useful citizens who have lived in Florida and he has left upon the society and the institutions of his old home an impress both ennobling and lasting. His life began when the last century was yet young, and throughout its unusual length, he was both friend and associate of the leading citizens and public personages who built his adopted State into a great American commonwealth. He had been a friend of all Florida's governors and prominent officials. He had been a notable figure in the charming social life of the Old South, and he had adapted himself to the new conditions and was an ornament to the social, literary and semi-public life of the present generation.

Robert Gamble was the eldest son of John Grattan Gamble, of Richmond, Va., and of Nancy Peyton, youngest daughter of Governor Christopher Greenup, of Kentucky. He was born in the old family residence on Gamble Hill, Richmond, on December 18, 1813. His father and uncle, who were partners, were large importing merchants, owning their own ships, and were ruined financially by President Jefferson's policy of embargo enforced against the British in the war of 1812.

This reverse of fortune was eventually the cause of the removal of the family to Florida in 1827, where both brothers became large cotton planters on their respective estates of Weel-aunee and Waukeenah.

Robert Gamble was fourteen years

of age at this time. The family came to Florida by private conveyance from Richmond on Christmas eve, 1827, camping that night between the St. Augustine branch and the small stream a hundred yards east of it on the St. Augustine road. He found a small village with one street, now Monroe, extending from the old capitol to the present site of the Leon Hotel. Huge stumps occupied the middle of the street, while on either side were a few one-story wooden stores, from which the settlers obtained their supplies. The Major grew to manhood and started life in Leon county as a cotton planter; but as that product was very cheap, selling sometimes as low as 3 1/2 cents per pound, he gave that up and moved to Jefferson county, establishing a tobacco farm and cigar factory. This ran along smoothly for a few years, long enough for his brand of cigars to make a reputation in the New York markets, years after which he learned that a fine cigar in California and other distant parts were branded as Waukeenah cigars as a mark of excellence.

After a time the ravages of small species of insect caused a great loss in this tobacco industry, and, knowing no better way to get rid of this destructive little enemy, Major Gamble set fire to his factory and went further south in search of another field for investment. Reaching the wilds of Manatee county in 1842, and believing in its future, and in the possibilities of its rich hammock lands, he determined to establish a sugar plantation and factory on the north side of Manatee river.

The enormity of that undertaking can best be understood, when it is known what a real wilderness that section then was. The families living in the county at that time might have been counted on one's fingers, and there was no regular communication with the outside world except by schooner from St. Mark once for six weeks. There was no communication with Tampa by land or water—not so much as a cow trail through the woods. There Major Gamble purchased thirty-five hundred acres of land, and, with one hundred and ten slaves and a few expert workmen who had strayed into that section, he began clearing land and the manufacture of brick for the erection of a residence and sugar mills. Sugar was made in large quantities—to use the Major's own language, "enough molasses to float the United States